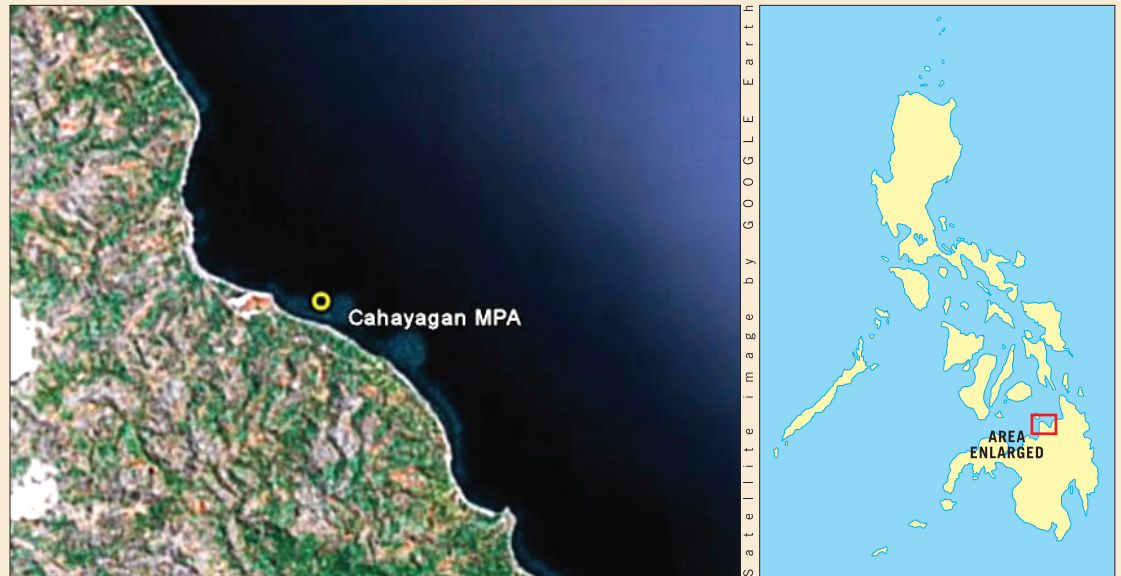


## 2009 Most Outstanding MPA Finalist



### CAHAYAGAN MARINE FISH SANCTUARY

Barangay Cahayagan  
*Carmen, Agusan del Norte*



#### GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Cahayagan Marine Fish Sanctuary is located in Barangay Cahayagan, one of the rural barangays of the municipality of Carmen in Agusan del Norte.

#### DESCRIPTION

- Declared as marine sanctuary through a Barangay resolution approving Barangay Ordinance no. 01 series of 2001 and later adopted by municipal ordinance that declared it as a sanctuary in 2003
- 20 hectares “no-take” core zone with 50-m buffer zone on each side
- Bounded in the north by San Agustin, to the south by Barangay Tagcatong, to the east is Butuan Bay and to the west is the Municipality of Magsaysay in the Province of Misamis Oriental
- Surrounded with fringing corals of Acropora and Non Acropora

#### NOTEWORTHY FLORA AND FAUNA

- Regular sightings of sharks (“banakon”), mostly in schools of 5-7 in the mornings
- Increase in triton shells reduced the numbers of crown-of-thorns

### KEY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Initiated by local community members in response to a number of illegal fishing practices in the area
- The Cahayagan Fisherfolk Organization (CFO) together with the Local Government of Carmen, Barangay Officials, Deputized Fishery Warden, is in the front line in the vigilant protection of the Fish Sanctuary
- CFO hold the general assembly to discuss issues affecting their resources
- Fisherfolk were equipped with training and paralegal knowledge on fishery law enforcement
- LGU extend logistic support to fishery warden by providing monthly honorarium
- Well-trained wardens issued with complete paraphernalia and accessories
- Diversified livelihood ventures
- Local people's organization regularly conduct monthly coastal clean-up

### BENEFITS

- Good networking and linkages with NGOs and line agencies
- Decrease in crown-of-thorns occurrence
- Biophysical assessment is done by assisting institutions like: no capacity to do regular monitoring on the biophysical and ecological impacts
- Replanting of mangroves and construction of dikes and seawall to prevent erosion

### ISSUES & CONCERNS

- Conflicts in enforcement
- No capacity to do regular monitoring on the biophysical and ecological impacts

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is a need for trainings for participatory monitoring and evaluation of the MPA

